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BULLETIN

OF THE

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Issued in
JANUARY, MARCH, MAY, JULY, SEPTEMBER AND
NOVEMBER

There is no subscription price, and the Bulletin is sent only to members of the Association.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President—Mary W. Plummer, Library School, New York Public Library, N. Y. City.
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Secretary—George B. Utley, 78 E. Washington St., Chicago.
Treasurer—Carl B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.
Executive offices—78 E. Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.

A LETTER

The Panama-Pacific International
Exposition

Office of the President

February 28, 1916.

My dear Mr. Utley:

It was not possible for me to attend many of the convention sessions, neither was it possible for me personally to greet many of the delegates who attended the great number of congresses, conferences and conventions which met with us during the Exposition period.

I take this opportunity of expressing the appreciation of the Exposition management to the officers and members of your organization for the part they had in making the Exposition such an unqualified success. We consider the congress program one of the

chief factors in producing that very gratifying result.

So many human interests were represented and the convention discussions had to do with such vital, practical, present-day needs, that we are certain that true international fraternity and world service were distinctly advanced.

We know that convention attendance was largely responsible for the symmetrical success of our undertaking. We rejoice, however, that the Exposition was the means of making all of us better neighbors. You know us better. We are glad you came.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES C. MOORE,

President.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

President Plummer has appointed the following Executive Board committees:

Decimal Classification Advisory Committee
(See Bulletin, January, 1916, p. 31)

C. W. Andrews, John Crerar Library, Chicago.

Corinne Bacon, care H. W. Wilson Co., White Plains, N. Y.

W. S. Biscoe, New York State Library.

June R. Donnelly, Simmons College Library School, Boston.

Jennie D. Fellows, New York State Library, Albany.

Charles A. Flagg, Public Library, Bangor, Me.

Julia Pettee, Union Theological Seminary, New York City.

Mary L. Sutliff, Library School, New York Public Library.

A. Law Voge, Mechanics'-Mercantile Library, San Francisco.

The President suggests that Mr. Voge serve as secretary but that the Committee elect its own chairman.

Asbury Park Conference Local Committee
Edna B. Pratt, New Jersey Public Library Commission, Trenton.

Adeline J. Pratt, assistant librarian Asbury Park Public Library.

Sarah B. Askew, New Jersey Public Library Commission, Trenton.

Ernest C. Richardson, Princeton University Library.

M. Taylor Pyne, chairman New Jersey Public Library Commission, Princeton.

Josephine W. Porter, librarian Asbury Park Public Library.

Publicity

Mr. W. H. Kerr, chairman of the Publicity Committee, who was empowered to complete his committee, has named the following:

Charles H. Compton, Seattle Public Library.

Frederick C. Hicks, Columbia University Library.

Samuel H. Ranck, Grand Rapids Public Library.

Charles E. Rush, Des Moines Public Library.

William F. Yust, Rochester Public Library.

Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl, Indiana Public Library Commission, Connerville.

Joseph L. Wheeler, McMillan Free Library, Youngstown, Ohio.

COWHIDE VS. BUCKRAM

In the second edition of Library Handbook No. 5, "Binding for Libraries," recently issued, the A. L. A. Committee on Bookbinding advocates the use of cowhide in binding fiction and juvenile books. Unfortunately the war demand for cowhide has caused the price to advance and the quality to deteriorate. The Committee therefore suggests that buckrams meeting the specifications of the Bureau of Standards, or other cloths equally as strong, be substituted for cowhide in all cases. When the price and quality again become normal this policy should be reversed.

A. L. BAILEY, Chairman

Committee on Bookbinding.

THE LIBRARIES AND THE STEVENS BILL

In accordance with the resolutions of the Council of the American Library Association, the bookbuying committee of the Association prepared a circular to libraries, urging the necessity of joint action to se-

cure an amendment to the Stevens bill, which would exempt libraries from the provisions of the bill. The committee also had in view other action looking toward the same end. A conference was arranged with Mr. Whittier of the American Fair Trade League, which seems to be the organization energetically backing price maintenance legislation. Mr. Whittier informed the committee that a new bill was about to be introduced which would replace the old Stevens-Ayres bill. He offered his co-operation in obtaining a clause in the bill exempting libraries. The new bill was introduced by Representative Stephens of Nebraska, January 21st. (H. R. No. 9671.) The bill contains the following clause:

"The provisions of this act shall not apply in cases of sales of such article or articles of commerce to the United States, or in cases of sales of such articles to any state or public library, or to any society or institution incorporated or established solely for religious, philosophical, educational, medical, scientific or literary purposes, made in good faith for use thereof by such society or institution."

It would appear that all objections on the part of librarians, as such, to the old bill are obviated by the introduction of the new bill, and that no further action on the part of libraries and library organizations will be necessary if the second section is retained.

The clause reinforces the principle laid down in the tariff law that libraries which are supported by public taxation for educational purposes, and which are practically wholesale buyers, should not be on the same plane as the private individual.

The Bookbuying Committee is grateful for the hearty co-operation it has received from librarians in all parts of the country. The progress of the bill, of course, will be carefully watched and reported. It is possible that the bill may be so amended in committee as to affect libraries, in which case some action on the part of libraries and library organizations would be desirable. At the present writing (March 1st)